

eCensus take-up rates

The eCensus is the online option for completing a Census Form in the Australian Census of Population and Housing. eCensus provides respondents with a fast, easy and secure alternative to the traditional paper form. The 2011 Census was the second time the online option has been available; it was first offered in 2006. Respondents were provided with a Census Form Number and an eCensus access code in order to log in and complete their Census Form via the eCensus website. Although Census Night was Tuesday 9 August 2011, the eCensus was open from Thursday 28 July 2011 until Monday 5 September 2011 to allow for a higher response rate. Respondents were able to access the eCensus at any time during this period to complete and submit their form.

e-Census take-up

eCensus take-up refers to the number of households who chose to complete their Census Form using the online eCensus option, rather than returning a traditional paper form. The eCensus take-up rate refers to the proportion of Census Household Forms completed online for occupied private dwellings.

eCensus take-up across Australia for 2011

For the 2011 Census of Population and Housing, 2,706,051 households submitted their form via eCensus, representing a national eCensus take-up rate of 33.07% for all occupied private dwellings (refer to Table 1). This is a large increase from 2006, when the eCensus take-up rate was 10.15%.

As in 2006, the Australian Capital Territory recorded the highest eCensus take-up rate for 2011 (44.96%). This was followed by Western Australia (35.46%) and New South Wales (34.19%) (Table 1).

The regional differences in 2011 eCensus take-up rates for greater capital cities and the rest of state regions are presented in Table 2. All states and territories had higher take-up rates in their greater capital cities compared with their 'rest of state' regions. Excluding the Australian Capital Territory, the highest greater capital city eCensus take-up rates were for Greater Sydney (39.42%), Greater Perth (37.61%) and Greater Brisbane (36.33%). Queensland recorded the highest eCensus take-up rate for the 'rest of state' region, at 29.44%.

Table 1: 2011 eCensus take-up rates for occupied private dwellings by state and territory

State / territory	Household eForms (no.)	eCensus take-up rate (%)
New South Wales	888,555	34.19
Victoria	643,514	31.68
Queensland	537,953	32.63
South Australia	192,412	29.88
Western Australia	301,888	35.46
Tasmania	60,667	30.35
Northern Territory	20,274	27.93
Australian Capital Territory	60,707	44.96

Other Territories	81	9.98
Australia	2,706,051	33.07

(a) Other Territories

Table 2: 2011 state and territory eCensus take-up rates for occupied private dwellings by greater capital city and rest of state regions

State/Territory	Greater Capital City		Rest of state		Total	
	Household eForms (no.)	eCensus take-up rate (%)	Household eForms (no.)	eCensus take-up rate (%)	Household eForms (no.)	eCensus take-up rate (%)
New South Wales	631,262	39.42	257,298	25.79	888,560	34.19
Victoria	517,817	34.64	125,693	23.43	643,510	31.68
Queensland	277,238	36.33	260,716	29.44	537,954	32.63
South Australia	157,765	32.09	34,647	22.76	192,412	29.88
Western Australia	248,117	37.61	53,768	28.06	301,885	35.46
Tasmania	29,287	34.32	31,377	27.39	60,664	30.35
Northern Territory	14,821	33.15	5,452	19.55	20,273	27.93
Australian Capital Territory	60,708	44.96	..	..	60,708	44.96
Other Territories	82	10.07	..	..	82	10.07
Australia	1,937,097	23.67	768,951	9.40	2,706,048	33.07

.. not applicable

Cells in this table have been randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data. Discrepancies may appear between sums of the component items and totals across tables.